

Infectious Disease Response Newsletter

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Communicable Disease Control

Vol. 1, No. 1

Fall 2004

Welcome to the 1st edition of the Infectious Disease Response (IDR) Newsletter. This newsletter is being sent to all who have attended smallpox vaccination certification training. We would like to use this newsletter as a means of staying in touch with you as well as a means of providing updates and notifying you of upcoming events. While there is a significant amount of attention focused on bioterrorism preparedness, we recognize that the plans and skills learned now may likely be utilized in the event of a natural public health event. We welcome your feedback and comments. Please take a moment to update the MA Vaccination Team Member Demographic Information form attached. Please fax it back to MDPH attn: R. Hernandez 617-983-6840.

Sincerely,



Alfred DeMaria, Jr., MD,
Chief Medical Officer, Assistant Commissioner, MDPH;
Director, Bureau of Communicable Disease Control;
State Epidemiologist

What is the SNS?

The *Strategic National Stockpile* (SNS) consists of a sustainable cache of medical materiel and equipment available to states within hours of a declared emergency. The SNS is maintained, managed and administered by cooperative agreement of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The SNS is designed to treat mass casualties resulting from natural disasters, industrial accidents and/or terrorist action.

As portions of the SNS arrive in the state to a central facility, the materiel is apportioned and delivered to hospitals and Emergency Dispensing Sites throughout Massachusetts. The supply of medical materiel, including pharmaceuticals from the SNS is maintained through a supply network known as Vendor Managed Inventory or VMI. VMI is the virtual inventory of medical materiel and equipment located in pharmaceutical supply facilities and manufacturers across the country. So long as there is a need, the VMI will provide the materiel to see states through the disaster until recovery.

New Web-Based Training Course from CDC *Smallpox Vaccine Storage and Handling*

The National Immunization Program (NIP)/CDC announces the availability of *Smallpox Vaccine Storage and Handling*, an interactive web-based training course. This 4-module course covers Vaccine Distribution, Vaccine Storage, Handling the Vaccine: Clinic Issues, and Safeguarding the Vaccine. The course is designated for 2.75 CMEs or 3.1 CEUs. The course is available free of charge on the National Immunization Program website at:
<http://www2.cdc.gov/nip/isd/spoxvsh/launch1.html>.

Emergency Preparedness –

What's Happening in MA?

- 174 persons have received smallpox vaccination in the state. There have been no significant adverse reactions.
- 873 persons have been certified to provide smallpox vaccination in the event of the need for mass immunization.
- A program providing guidance to local boards of health, local public health nurses, emergency planners and community members regarding mass immunization planning is now available. This program is free and continuing education credits are awarded. Contact your regional Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for more information.
- Visit the Infectious Disease Emergency Planning Guide at: <http://www.state.ma.us/dph/topics/bioterrorism/idep.doc>
- Algorithms have been developed for use in the hospital and field for the triage and care of patients with suspected infectious diseases. These tools can be found at <http://www.mass.gov/dph/bioterrorism/advisorygrps/index.htm> We encourage you to share these with your colleagues.
- In addition to the standing orders already available on the MDPH website, additional orders and algorithms are under development to assist communities with infectious disease emergencies.

Regional Contacts

Who can I contact in my area regarding planning for mass dispensing of medications or questions about local preparedness activities?

Area	Educator	Coordinator
Region 1	Barbara Coughlin 413 586 7525	Don Snyder 413 586 7525
Region 2	Jane Anderson 508 792 7880	Jana Ferguson 508 792 7880
Region 3	Elizabeth Sheehy 978 851 7261	David Trout 978 851 7261
Region 4	Judith Chevarley 617 983 6800	Beverly Anderson 781 828 1310
Region 4B	Rachael Heckscher 617 983 6800	Mary Clark 617 665 3688
Region 4C	Brad Cohen 617 343 1370	Suzanne Strickland 617 534 5678
Region 5	Lisa Crowner 508 977 3000	Diane Brown-Couture 508 977 3000

SMALLPOX

Smallpox Response Plan and Guidelines (Version 3.0)

This document outlines the strategies that would guide the public health response to a smallpox emergency and many of the federal, state, and local public health activities that must be undertaken in a smallpox outbreak. <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/smallpox/response-plan/index.asp>

Guide E: Communication Activities and Planning was UPDATED on June 23, 2004.

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/smallpox/response-plan/files/guide-e.pdf>

Upcoming Educational Opportunities

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health & the Massachusetts Dept. of Fire Services have developed several programs to provide information and training. These programs are:

- **Incident Command System for Health Care Providers**
- **EMS ICS – Hazmat Awareness IEMS ICS - HMA**
- **Emergency Medical Services Personal Protective Equipment and Decontamination (EMS PPE Decon)**
(Conducted in fire stations and ambulance sites for EMS professionals.)

For information and scheduling please contact course coordinator:

Mary Taschner, APRN, BC, MS

Dept. of Public Health Liaison for Training-Department of Fire Services

Telephone: 978.567.3210

Email: mary.taschner@dfs.state.ma.us

Massachusetts Department of Public Health SMALLPOX VACCINATION CLINIC September 2004

1. Pre-vaccination Session/Pre-screening Interview with a Nurse

This is for people who are considering receiving smallpox vaccine in order to participate in the State's response to a smallpox outbreak, should such an event ever occur. The purpose of this session is to provide potential vaccinees with the information they need to make informed decisions about vaccination. At this session, potential vaccinees will be given written information, view a short video and have an opportunity to ask questions. In addition, potential vaccinees will have a medical screening interview with a nurse.

Date: Wednesday Sept. 8, 2004

Time: 1-4 p.m.

Location: State Laboratory Institute, Auditorium (first floor)

2. Vaccination Clinic

Date: Thursday Sept. 23, 2004

Time: 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Location: State Laboratory Institute, Rm 133 (first floor)

3. Take Clinic (two times) All vaccinees must attend one of these 2 clinics in order to have a nurse assess their vaccination site and document successful vaccination. This is also an opportunity for vaccinees to ask questions.

Date: Wednesday Sept. 29, 2004

Time: 7:30-9:00am

Locations: SLI Lobby Conf Rm & Conf Rm 123 & Immunization Nurses' office Rm 122

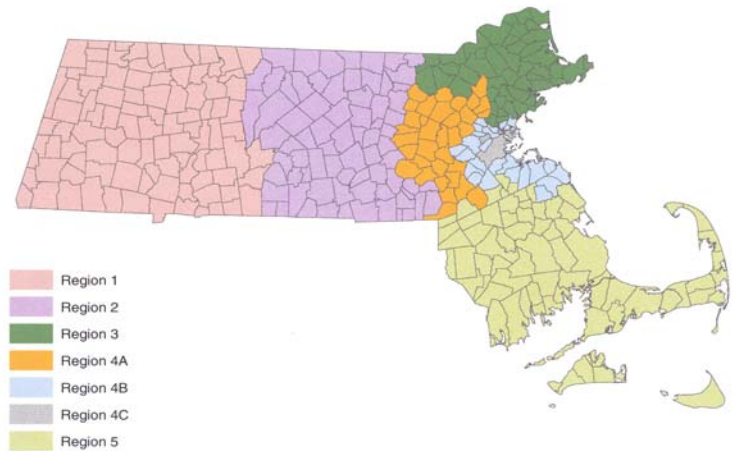
Time: 11:00am-12:30 pm

Locations: SLI Lobby Conf. Rm and Immunization Nurses' office Room 122

For more information, please contact Mary Conant, RN, MDPH Infectious Disease Response Nurse/Smallpox Coordinator at 617-983-6862 or email: Mary.Conant@state.ma.us

What is your Emergency Preparedness Region?

Emergency Preparedness Regions



Next Smallpox Advisory Committee Meeting

The next smallpox advisory committee meeting will take place on Tuesday October 19, 2004 from 2:00 – 4:00 PM at the State Laboratory Institute, 305 South Street, Jamaica Plain, MA.

The meeting will be held in the auditorium at the State Lab. Parking is limited. Please contact Mary Conant, RN, MDPH at 617-983-6862 or email: Mary.Conant@state.ma.us

New MDPH Smallpox Coordinator Hired!

We have hired a new Smallpox Coordinator/Infectious Response Nurse here at MDPH. Mary Conant, RN started on July 19th and we are very happy to have Mary on board ! Mary came to us from the City of Lowell where she served at the Supervisor for Public Health Nursing and was the Assistant School Health Coordinator. Mary can be reached at the State Lab phone 617-983-6862 or by email Mary.Conant@state.ma.us

Name Our Newsletter Contest ☺

We thought it would be desirable to have a more interesting name for this newsletter so we are having a Naming Contest. Please send your ideas via e-mail to Mary Conant at:

Mary.Conant@state.ma.us

We have a nice set of reference books as prizes for the winner! MDPH staff are excluded from this contest (sorry).

Communicable Disease Update Newsletter

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE UPDATE is a quarterly publication of the Bureau of Communicable Disease Control, Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Current and past issues of CD Update are available online at:

<http://www.state.ma.us/dph/cdc/update/comnews.htm>

Contact Jacki Dooley at jacqueline.dooley@state.ma.us or call (617) 983-6559 to have PDF versions emailed or faxed to you.